

DUNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 2 October 2023 COMMENCING AT 7.00 P.M.

Present: Councillors Liz Jones (Town Mayor), Louise O’Riordan (Deputy Mayor) Trevor Adams; Gregory Alderman; Richard Attwell; Wendy Bater; Robert Blennerhasset; Matthew Brennan; Alex Butler; Phillip Crawley; Kenson Gurney; Peter Hollick; Matthew Neall and Johnson Tamara with Paul Hodson (Town Clerk and Chief Executive) and Georgia Pearson (Democratic Services Manager).

Present: John Crawley (Head of Grounds and Environmental Services) and Lisa Scheder (Head (via Teams) of Finance and Responsible Financial Officer)

Apologies: Councillors Mark Davis; John Gurney; Michelle Henderson and Nicholas Kotarski

Public Attendance: One

192/23 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26 June 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Town Mayor.

193/23 DECLARATIONS

There were no specific declarations of interest.

194/23 CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS

The Town Mayor spoke in support of a report relating to her activities up to September 2023.

195/23 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

There were no questions put to the meeting.

196/23 COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Vice Chair of the Community Services committee provided a summary to members of the community services committee held on 4 September.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Community Services Committee held on 4 September 2023 be received.

197/23 GROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Grounds and Environmental Services committee provided a summary to members of the Grounds and Environmental Services committee held on 11 September.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Grounds and Environmental Services Committee held on 11 September 2023 be received.

198/23 FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Finance and General Purposes committee provided a summary to members of the Finance and General Purposes committee held on 18 September.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 18 September 2023 be received.

199/23 REFERRAL REPORT FROM THE PLANS-SUB COMMITTEE: CHANGE OF MEETING DATE AND TIME

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: that the change of date on which Plans Sub-Committee meetings are held be moved from Tuesday nights at 7pm to Monday nights at 6pm.

200/23 TO AGREE ANY NOMINATIONS TO THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF THE TOWN & PARISH COUNCILS – CORRESPONDANCE

Councillors Kenson Gurney and Matthew Neall put their names forward to be nominated to the Bedfordshire Association of Town and Parish Councils Committee to represent Dunstable Town Council who are their largest subscriber in the area. It was agreed by Members that Councillors Kenson Gurney and Matthew Neall be nominated to represent the Town Council on the Committee.

201/23 CEMETERY WORKING GROUP REPORT

The Head of Grounds and Environmental services summarised the report given.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: That Councillors Gregory Alderman; Richard Attwell; Matthew Brennan; Kenson Gurney; Liz Jones and Louise O’Riordan form the new cemetery working group.

202/23 REPORTS/UPDATES BY MEMBERS OF CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL ON MATTERS OF INTEREST TO THE TOWN COUNCIL

Councillor Kenson Gurney gave an update to members advising that CBC are in talks regarding the proposal to change the time and nature of their meetings. He also advised that the school’s for the future programme has been paused.

Councillor Crawley updated members that a sinkhole had appeared in his ward and he undertook to keep members updated of the progress.

203/23 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND THE PUBLIC

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: in terms of Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters and therefore, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded.

204/23 PRIORY HOUSE FUNDING REPORT

The Town Clerk and Chief executive summarised the report. Members congratulated the team on their hard work.

It was proposed, seconded and

RESOLVED: to receive the National Lottery Heritage Fund grant of £1,142,730 and to accept the terms and conditions for the grant.

205/23 VERBAL UPDATE ON CREASEY PARK MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Town Clerk and Chief executive provided members with an update regarding the Creasey Park management arrangements. Central Bedfordshire Council have informed the Town Council that they will not extend the current management agreement with Dunstable Town Council for the management of the Creasey Park Community Football Centre but will now undertake a procurement process on the open market.

The meeting closed at 20:03